

MINUTES

**MONTANA SENATE
58th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION
COMMITTEE ON STATE ADMINISTRATION**

Call to Order: By **CHAIRMAN JOHN COBB**, on April 7, 2003 at 3:15 P.M., in Room 335 Capitol.

ROLL CALL

Members Present:

Sen. John Cobb, Chairman (R)
Sen. Mike Sprague, Vice Chairman (R)
Sen. Kelly Gebhardt (R)
Sen. Carolyn Squires (D)
Sen. Mike Wheat (D)

Members Excused: None.

Members Absent: None.

Staff Present: Pat Murdo, Legislative Branch
Lisa Gallagher, Committee Secretary

Please Note. These are summary minutes. Testimony and discussion are paraphrased and condensed. Tape stamp refers to material immediately following.

Committee Business Summary:

Hearing & Date Posted: HB 761, 4/1/2003
Executive Action: HB 761

HEARING ON HB 761

Sponsor: REPRESENTATIVE DICK HAINES, HD 63, Missoula

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

{Tape: 1; Side: A; Approx. Time Counter: 0 - 2.4}

REP. HAINES said that this bill does three things: 1)gives the Department of Military Affairs authority to exercise eminent domain for a cemetery for the Veteran of Foreign Wars; 2)requires

the Department to enter into negotiations; 3) appropriates \$150,000 to the Department which comes from veteran license plates and will be reimbursed to the state from the federal government.

Proponents' Testimony: none

Opponents' Testimony: none

Informational Testimony:

Joe Foster, Montana Veteran Affairs, said that he was there to answer any questions that the Committee might have.

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

{Tape: 1; Side: A; Approx. Time Counter: 2.8 - 3.3}

SEN. WHEAT asked **Joe Foster** if the Department already has the \$150,000. **Joe Foster** said, "Yes, and they have the capability to fund the program."

SEN. COBB asked **Joe Foster** if the \$150,000 is to buy the land. **Joe Foster** said it is for the design and other stuff that goes along with the cemetery project. They do not purchase the land.

SEN. GEBHARDT asked **REP. HAINES** if this bill was just for Missoula. **REP. HAINES** said that it applies up to 75 miles from Missoula.

SEN. GEBHARDT asked **REP. HAINES** if the reason why they considered Department of Natural Resources and Conservation land is because it is cheap. **REP. HAINES** said it is the cheapest, but they will also trade land.

SEN. WHEAT asked **REP. HAINES** how long is the tract. **REP. HAINES** said that it is 23 acres.

Closing by Sponsor:

REP. HAINES closed.

{Tape: 1; Side: A; Approx. Time Counter: 7.6}

Motion/Vote: **SEN. WHEAT** moved that HB 761 BE CONCURRED IN.
Motion carried 5-0, by voice vote.

SEN. WHEAT will carry HB 761 on the Senate floor.

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 3:25 P.M.

SEN. JOHN COBB, Chairman

LISA GALLAGHER, Secretary

JC/LG

EXHIBIT (sts74aad)